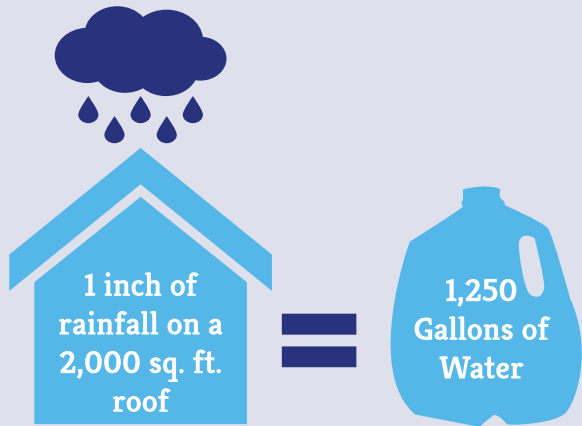


## What is Stormwater?

Stormwater runoff is excess rain water that runs off from land surfaces during and following rainfall. A certain amount of rainfall will naturally soak into the ground, particularly if the land cover is vegetated or has a tree canopy. Before land is developed for beneficial purposes, a significant portion of rainfall soaks (infiltrates) into the ground, thereby resulting in much less surface runoff.

In developed conditions, however, less of the rainfall can soak into the ground and surface runoff generally increases. Increased runoff contributes to higher peak flows in drainage systems and receiving streams, as well as a greater volume of runoff. Higher peak flows and greater volume contribute to urban stormwater management concerns, including flooding safety hazards, property damage, soil and stream erosion, and impacts to surface water quality and stream health.



## DID YOU KNOW?

**Stormwater flows UNTREATED** from our roofs and roads into our streams, lakes and rivers — the same bodies of water we use for swimming, fishing and providing drinking water

## Why use "impervious area" in determining stormwater charges?



The billing of all properties (residential or commercial) is based on impervious area. Impervious area is a term used to refer to hard surfaces on a property that do not allow rain to soak into the ground. Roofs, garages, carports, storage sheds, commercial buildings and concrete, gravel, or asphalt driveways, sidewalks, parking lots, and patios are all considered impervious areas.

The Stormwater Fee structure reflects the amount of runoff that each individual property contributes to the community's overall stormwater runoff. The more impervious surface area on a property, the greater the amount of stormwater that runs off into our culverts and streams, thus the greater the demand on the drainage infrastructure. The fee is set up so that properties that produce more runoff are assessed a greater stormwater fee.

### What is a Single-Family Equivalent Unit (SFEU) and how was it developed?

A Single-Family Equivalent Unit (SFEU) is the unit of measurement that the City of Raleigh uses for billing the Stormwater Fee. The SFEU was developed by reviewing the impervious area of a statistical sampling of representative properties in Raleigh. Each property was measured and a median impervious surface area was determined to be 2,260 square feet. Therefore, 2,260 sq. ft. equals one SFEU.

## Who has to pay the stormwater fee?

All owners or tenants of property within the City Limits of Raleigh with 400 sf or more of impervious area pay a stormwater fee. Properties outside of the City's corporate limits are not subject to the fee.



### How often are customers billed?

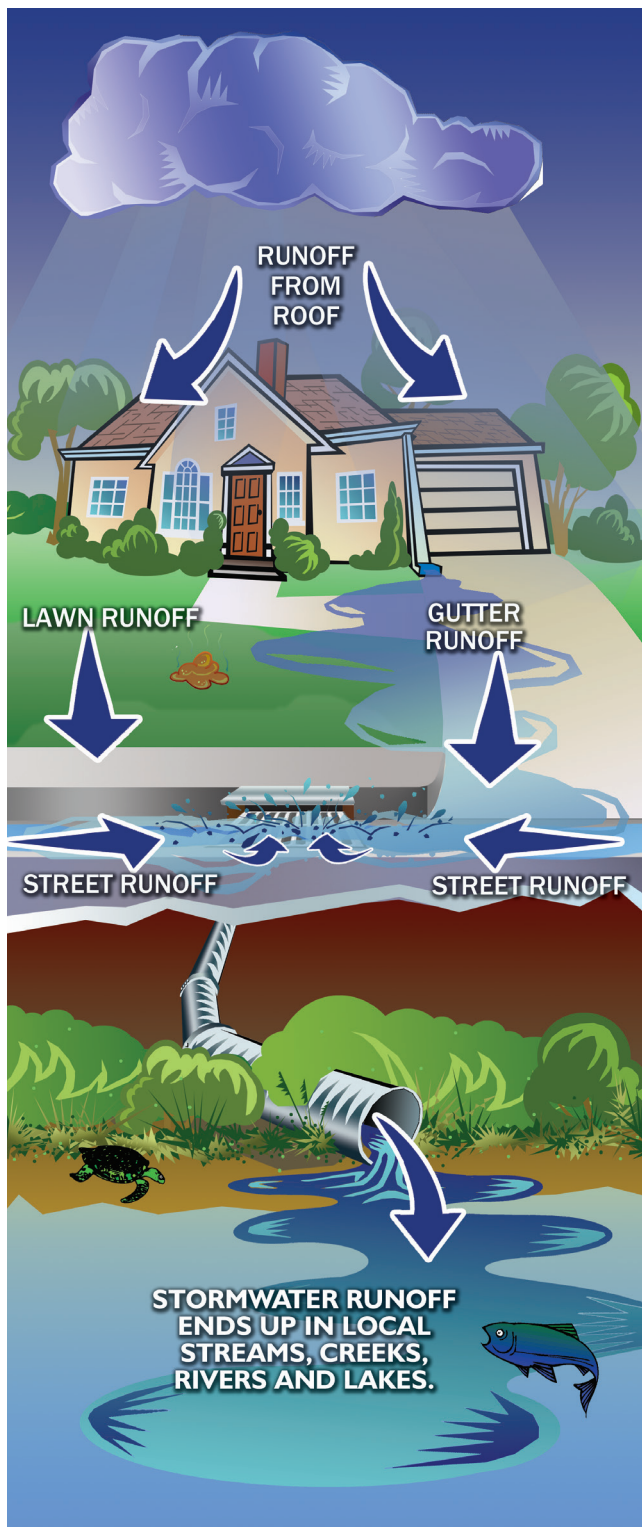
Stormwater Utility customers are billed monthly on the same bill as their water and sewer services. Customers who do not receive water and sewer services from the City receive a stormwater services bill on the same monthly billing cycle.

### Stormwater Billing Inquiries

919-996-3940

[StormwaterFee@raleighnc.gov](mailto:StormwaterFee@raleighnc.gov)

Water/Sewer/Recycle &  
Solid Waste Inquiries  
919-996-3245



## How to determine your stormwater fees

| Single-family Properties |                                   |                            |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Tier                     | Square Feet of Impervious Surface | Monthly Fee                |
|                          | 0-399                             | No Fee*                    |
| 1                        | 400-1,000                         | \$2.00                     |
| 2                        | 1,001 - 3,870                     | \$5.00                     |
| 3                        | 3,871 - 6,620                     | \$8.50                     |
| 4                        | 6,621 - 9,500                     | \$14.50                    |
| 5                        | Over 9,500                        | Commercial Billing Applies |

### Commercial, industrial, institutional and multi-family properties

\$5 per 2,260 square feet of impervious surface

\*All properties with less than 400 square feet of impervious surface are not subject to a Stormwater fee.

### Contact Us

Stormwater Management  
Billing Inquiries  
[StormwaterFee@raleighnc.gov](mailto:StormwaterFee@raleighnc.gov)  
919-996-3940



The City of Raleigh

## Stormwater Fee & Rate Guide



Striving to manage stormwater to preserve and protect life, support healthy natural resources, and complement sustainable growth within a vibrant community